

## **Monitoring Plan Sacred, Historical, Cultural and Burial Sites**

### **Introduction:**

Because all manipulation of lake levels can potentially expose vulnerable sacred, historical, cultural and burial sites, effective monitoring is a necessary part of avoiding and minimizing adverse effects on sacred, historical, and cultural sites and human burials. Two types of monitoring are required:

1. To carry out on-going shoreline monitoring to discourage and apprehend looters; and
2. To evaluate impacts on particularly sensitive and/or endangered sacred, historical, cultural and burial sites.

### **Recommendations:**

1. General Site/Shoreline Monitoring. According to the Programmatic Agreement (PA):

#### **“13. Site Monitoring Program**

**A) Site Monitoring.** The Corps shall develop and implement a monitoring program to provide continued oversight of historic properties located on federal land managed by the Corps and to collect information on site conditions and effects or threats to them (including but not limited to, erosion, recreational, agricultural and other encroachment, and looting and vandalism). The Corps shall use this information to plan and implement law enforcement and other preventive or corrective management actions.

**B) Site Monitoring Plan.** The Corps shall develop a Monitoring Plan to describe the conduct of the monitoring program. The Plan shall discuss the types and location of sites to be monitored, field methodology of monitoring and conditions recordation (including forms, data dictionary); data storage, retrieval and analysis; schedule; staffing and qualifications; and other details. The Corps shall produce a preliminary draft and then the Corps, Affected Tribes and THPOs, SHPOs, ACHP, and other consulting parties shall work together to develop a draft version of the Monitoring Plan, in accordance with stipulation 6. The Corps, in consultation with the Affected Tribes and THPOs, SHPOs, ACHP, and other consulting parties shall develop a final monitoring plan within 180 days of submission of comments on the draft Monitoring Plan. The Corps shall implement the final monitoring plan according to the schedule in the monitoring plan, CRMPs, and in response to recent information about potential threats to sites.” (2004 Programmatic Agreement, p. 11)

2. Site-Specific Monitoring.
  - a. The Corps should consult with affected Tribes to develop a plan for monitoring specific known sites that are particularly vulnerable to damage and/or exposure from wave action, changing lake levels, and other factors;
  - b. In many cases, Tribes may propose to contract with the Corps to carry out the day-to-day activities of identifying and monitoring sites; and
  - c. Adequate funding to carry out these plans must be projected and budgeted by the Corps in a timely manner.

